

Three New Malaysian Birds

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Psittacula alexandri dammermani subsp. nov. 2002. 2/4/99 - 1/10/02

Like *P. a. alexandri* of Java, but much larger.

Type.—Adult female collected on Karimon Java Island, Java Sea, on 15th May, 1926 by Dr. K. W. Dammerman. Buitenzorg Museum No. 4014. Wing, 173 mm.

Specimens examined.—6 males and 5 females, all from Karimon Java Island.

Wings, ♂ 173, 175 (+?), 170; ♀ 166, 170, 173 (type) mm.

Remarks.—Unfortunately some of the specimens listed have imperfect wings but the available measurements clearly indicate a race larger than *P. a. alexandri* of which our series from east and west Java give the following wing-ranges:—males 145–155 mm.; females 146–148 mm. The bill of *dammermani* is also more robust than that of typical *alexandri*. The two forms are very much alike in colour although no Javan bird before us has the top of the head so deeply blue as in several examples of the new race: but this is a character much influenced by abrasion of the plumage and at the moment we do not use it for distinguishing the two races. Several large races of this parrot have been described from islands off the west coast of Sumatra, but in colour they are all much nearer to the very distinct northern form, *P. a. fasciatus* which is otherwise only found as far south as Peninsular Siam.

Hypothymis azurea karimatensis subsp. nov.

Like *H. a. prophata* Oberh.,¹ of the Malay States, Sumatra and Borneo but larger, the male with the black gorget obsolete and the female with the tail strongly washed with blue.

Type.—Adult male collected on Serutu, Karimata Islands, south-west Borneo on 24th March, 1931 by L. Coomans de Ruiter. Coll. No. 133. Wing 76.5 mm.; tail 75 mm.

Specimens examined.—Karimata Besar, Panebangan, Serutu, Pelapis, 6 ♂, 4 ♀, 1 juv. (24-3-31).

Wings, ad. ♂ 75, 74, 72, 78, 77; ♀ 74.74, 73, 68 mm.

Remarks.—Large races of *Hypothymis azurea* exist in the Anamba Islands (*opisthocyanea* Oberh.) and the Natuna Islands (*gigantoptera* Oberh.) but in both these forms the male has a well-developed black gorget. In one male of *karimatensis* the gorget is represented by a thin black line: in the other adult

1. *Hypothymis azurea prophata* Oberh., Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 39, 1911, p. 597: Karimon Island, Rhio Archipelago.

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males only a few of the feathers on the foreneck are narrowly margined with black and in three specimens no trace of the gorget can be seen unless the plumage is disturbed.

Orthotomus sepium palliolatus subsp. nov.

Like *O. s. cineraceus* Blyth, of the Malay Peninsula and Sumatra, but the chestnut areas of the head paler.

Type.—Adult male collected on Karimon Java Island, Java Sea, on 12th May, 1926 by Dr. K. W. Dammerman. Buitenzorg Mus. No. 3998. Wing, 52.5 mm.

Specimens examined.—Four males and one female from the type locality compared with a large series of topotypical *cinereus*.

Remarks.—In the general tone of the upper parts *palliolatus* seems exactly like *cinereus*, but on the under parts it happens that the small series of the former is distinctly whiter below, especially on the throat and breast. We do not, however, attach much importance to this character. Two males of the new form are perhaps rather younger than the other two, but as in the case of the female and other males they have been compared with specimens of *cinereus* in a similar stage of plumage and all are distinctly less richly chestnut and more yellow on the head: the difference is particularly noticeable on the ear-coverts.

This new form is not improbably the bird occurring in the lowlands of the north coast of Java listed by Bartels and Stresemann (Treubia, XI, 1929, p. 133) as *O. s. cineraceus* Blyth.

Wings, ♂ 51, 52.5, 51, 52.5 mm.